

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A bed rail adapted for engagement to a bed having a first side, a second side, and a sleeping surface, wherein the bed rail comprises:

- a) a leg portion;
- b) a rail portion engaged to the leg portion and confronting the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion includes a frame and a wall engaged to the frame;
- c) wherein the rail portion extends from the leg portion to and beyond the sleeping surface to prevent a person on the sleeping surface from rolling off the bed;
- d) wherein the leg portion extends from the rail portion toward the second side of the bed; and
- e) wherein the wall comprises a rigid component.

2. The bed rail according to claim 1, wherein the wall comprises first and second rigid components.

3. The bed rail according to claim 1, wherein the rail portion and the leg portion can be relatively drawn to each other and away from each other.

4. The bed rail according to claim 1, wherein the rail portion can be locked at an acute angle relative to the leg portion to minimize any gap between the rail portion and the first side of the bed.

5. The bed rail according to claim 1, wherein the frame includes an upper portion, a lower portion, and a pair of side portions, and wherein the wall is engaged between the upper and lower portions and between the side portions.

6. The bed rail according to claim 1, and further comprising a counter member engaged to the leg portion and adapted for engaging the second side of the bed to keep the rail portion hugging the first side of the bed.

7. A bed rail adapted for engagement to a bed having a first side, a second side, and a sleeping surface, wherein the bed rail comprises:

- a) a leg portion;
- b) a rail portion engaged to the leg portion and confronting the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion includes a frame and a wall engaged to the frame;
- c) wherein the rail portion extends from the leg portion to and beyond the sleeping surface to prevent a person on the sleeping surface from rolling off the bed;
- d) wherein the leg portion extends from the rail portion toward the second side of the bed; and
- e) wherein the wall comprises tubing.

8. The bed rail according to claim 7, wherein the rail portion and the leg portion can be relatively drawn to each other and away from each other.

9. The bed rail according to claim 7, wherein the rail portion can be locked at an acute angle relative to the leg portion to minimize any gap between the rail portion and the first side of the bed.

10. The bed rail according to claim 7, wherein the frame includes an upper portion, a lower portion, and a pair of side portions, and wherein the wall is engaged between the upper and lower portions and between the side portions.

11. The bed rail according to claim 7, and further comprising a counter member engaged to the leg portion and adapted for engaging the second side of the bed to keep the rail portion hugging the first side of the bed.

12. A bed rail adapted for engagement to a bed having a first side, a second side, and a sleeping surface, wherein the bed rail comprises:

- a) a leg portion;
- b) a rail portion engaged to the leg portion and confronting the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion and the leg portion can be relatively drawn to each other and away from each other, wherein the rail portion can be locked at an acute angle relative to the leg portion to minimize any gap between the rail portion and the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion includes a frame and a wall engaged to the frame, wherein the frame includes an upper portion, a lower portion, and a pair of side portions, and wherein the wall is engaged between the upper and lower portions and between the side portions;
- c) wherein the rail portion extends from the leg portion to and beyond the sleeping surface to prevent a person on the sleeping surface from rolling off the bed;
- d) wherein the leg portion extends from the rail portion toward the second side of the bed; and
- e) wherein the wall comprises tubing.

13. The bed rail according to claim 12, and further comprising a counter member engaged to the leg portion and adapted for engaging the second side of the bed to keep the rail portion hugging the first side of the bed.

14. A bed rail adapted for engagement to a bed having a first side, a second side, and a sleeping surface, wherein the bed rail comprises:

a) a rail portion confronting the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion includes a frame and a wall engaged to the frame, wherein the frame includes an upper portion, a lower portion, and a pair of side portions, and wherein the wall is engaged between the upper and lower portions and between the side portions;

b) wherein the rail portion confronts the first side of the bed and extends upwardly and beyond the sleeping surface to prevent a person on the sleeping surface from rolling off the bed;

c) wherein the wall comprises tubing; and

d) wherein a strap extends from the rail portion, disposed on the first side of the bed, to the second side of the bed to retain the rail portion engaged to the bed.

15. A bed rail adapted for engagement to a bed having a first side, a second side, and a sleeping surface, wherein the bed rail comprises:

- a) a leg portion;
- b) a rail portion engaged to the leg portion and confronting the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion includes a frame and a wall engaged to the frame, with the frame including side portions;
- c) wherein the rail portion extends from the leg portion to and beyond the sleeping surface to prevent a person on the sleeping surface from rolling off the bed;
- d) wherein the leg portion extends from the rail portion toward the second side of the bed; and
- e) wherein the wall comprises tubing running to and between the side portions of the frame.

16. The bed rail according to claim 15, wherein the sleeping surface is disposed generally in a plane, wherein said tubing lies in said plane such that the wall is made rigid where a planar gap may otherwise form.

17. The bed rail according to claim 15, wherein the sleeping surface is disposed generally in a plane, wherein said tubing comprises at least a first tube and at least a second tube, wherein said first tube lies in said plane such that the wall is made rigid where a gap may otherwise form, and wherein said second tube lies between the first tube and the leg portion such that the wall is made further rigid where a gap may otherwise form.

18. The bed rail according to claim 15, wherein the tubing comprises a first tube, with the first tube comprising a pair of tube sections, with each of the tube

sections engaging one of the side portions of the frame, and with the tube sections engagable to and disengagable from each other such that, when broken down, the tube sections lend a more compact form to the bed rail.

19. The bed rail according to claim 15 and the bed having a head side and a foot side in addition to said first and second sides, wherein the first side runs into the head side which runs into the second side which runs into the foot side which runs into the first side so as to define a periphery to the bed, and further comprising a strap engaged to the rail portion, with the strap having a sufficient length to extend about the periphery such that the strap draws the rail portion against the first side of the bed such that any gap between the rail portion and the first side of the bed is minimized.

20. The bed rail according to claim 19, wherein the strap is engaged to the wall of the rail portion.

21. The bed rail according to claim 19, wherein the strap is engaged to the wall of the rail portion and runs between the side portions of the frame and the first side of the bed.

22. The bed rail according to claim 19, wherein the strap is engaged to the wall of the rail portion, wherein the frame of the rail portion includes side portions, wherein the side portions of the frame include respective first faces that are oriented toward the leg portion, wherein the leg portion runs away from the first faces of the side portions of the frame, and wherein the strap confronts said first faces of the side portions of the frame

to run between the side portions of the frame and the first side of the bed such that the wall of the rail portion is directly drawn against the bed and such that side portions of the frame are indirectly drawn against the bed.

23. The bed rail according to claim 22, wherein the wall of the rail portion includes sheeting as well as tubing, wherein the strap is engaged to said sheeting of the wall of the bed rail, such that said sheeting of the wall of the rail portion is directly drawn against the bed and such that side portions of the frame are indirectly drawn against the bed.

24. The bed rail according to claim 15, wherein the wall of the rail portion includes sheeting as well as tubing, wherein said sheeting includes a sleeve for said tubing.

25. The bed rail according to claim 15, and further comprising a first quick connect between said tubing and said side portion of the frame such that the bed rail can be readily set up for operation and readily broken down for storage.

26. The bed rail according to claim 15, and further comprising a second quick connect between said tubing and said side portion of the frame, with said second quick connect being connectable to different portions of said side portion along a height of said side portion such that said tubing is adjustable in height for sleeping surfaces of different heights.



27. A bed rail adapted for engagement to a bed having a first side, a second side, and a sleeping surface, wherein the bed rail comprises:

- a) a leg portion;
- b) a rail portion engaged to the leg portion and confronting the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion is swingably engaged to the leg portion such that the rail portion and leg portion may be swung together to lend a compact form to the bed rail, wherein the rail portion includes a frame and a wall engaged to the frame, with the frame including side portions;
- c) wherein the rail portion extends from the leg portion to and beyond the sleeping surface to prevent a person on the sleeping surface from rolling off the bed;
- d) wherein the leg portion extends from the rail portion toward the second side of the bed; and
- e) wherein the wall comprises a rigid component running to and between the side portions of the frame, wherein the sleeping surface is disposed generally in a plane, wherein said rigid component lies in said plane such that the wall is made rigid where a planar gap may otherwise form.

28. A bed rail adapted for engagement to a bed having a first side, a second side, and a sleeping surface defining a plane, wherein the bed rail comprises:

- a) a leg portion;
- b) a rail portion engaged to the leg portion and confronting the first side of the bed, wherein the rail portion includes a frame and a wall engaged to the frame;
- c) wherein the rail portion extends from the leg portion to and beyond the sleeping surface to prevent a person on the sleeping surface from rolling off the bed;
- d) wherein the leg portion extends from the rail portion toward the second side of the bed; and
- e) wherein the wall is rigid at the plane of the sleeping surface.